

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5**

DATE: May 29, 2007

SUBJECT: Reports of Significant Developments and Activities
Ending on May 18, 2007

FROM: Richard C. Karl, Director
Superfund Division

TO: Mary A. Gade
Regional Administrator

Bharat Mathur
Deputy Regional Administrator

The activities listed below are organized by site-specific activities and training/conferences:

SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

Removal Completion, Luna Pier Sunoco Site, Luna Pier, Michigan

On April 24, 2007, United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Emergency Response Branch 1 completed the major field activities at the Luna Pier Sunoco site, Luna Pier, Michigan. The response action was started on November 17, 2006, by the U.S. Coast Guard when containment boom was deployed on Lake Erie to contain released material. In late November, the U.S. Coast Guard requested assistance from U.S. EPA Region 5 when the source of the release was discovered. The On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) isolated the leak and removed 1500 tons of contaminated soil and approximately 45,000 gallons of oil-water waste. The site has been turned over to Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) for underground storage tank issues and any potential long term remediation.

Contact: P.C. Lall (734-692-7685)

Remedial Design Approved (Source Area 9/10), Southeast Rockford Groundwater Contamination Superfund Site, Rockford, Illinois

On April 26, 2007, U.S. EPA approved, with conditions, the remedial design for Source Area 9/10 at the Southeast Rockford Groundwater Contamination Superfund site, Rockford, Illinois. The remedial design was developed under provisions of an

Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) with the Hamilton Sundstrand Corporation, a potentially responsible party (PRP).

Area 9/10 has been an active industrial area since at least the 1920s. Investigations identified releases of volatile organic contaminants to the soil and groundwater associated with former outdoor drum storage areas and/or underground storage tank locations. The remedial design addresses soil contamination, and includes installation of six soil vapor extraction wells working in combination with fifteen air sparging points in the area of shallow groundwater contamination. Most soil contamination at Source Area 9/10 is approximately twenty feet below ground surface. A small portion of Source Area 9/10, the former Outside Drum Storage Area, will be managed through soil excavation, since soil contaminants are located at much shallower depths. Groundwater contamination at the Southeast Rockford Groundwater Contamination Superfund site has been addressed by previous removal and remedial actions. U.S. EPA will negotiate with the PRPs to implement the Source Area 9/10 remedial design.

Contact: Russell Hart (312-886-4844)

Settlement Reached, Hicksville Grain Company, Mark Center, Ohio

On May 2, 2007, the Agency filed a joint Administrative Complaint and Consent Agreement and Final Order resolving alleged Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) Section 103 and the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act Section 304 violations at Hicksville Grain Company, Mark Center, Ohio. The company failed to immediately notify the National Response Center, the State Emergency Response Commission, and the Local Emergency Planning Committee of a 4,771 pound release of anhydrous ammonia that occurred on March 16, 2005. Anhydrous ammonia is a hazardous substance under CERCLA with a reportable quantity of 100 pounds. This release was about 48 times the reportable quantity (RQ). As part of the settlement, the facility agreed to purchase and install security lighting over the bulk anhydrous ammonia storage area where the release occurred and will also install a concrete pad at both the dry and liquid fertilizer loading areas. The value of this project is \$26,407. Hicksville Grain will either have 30 days to pay the penalty or until August 31, 2007, to complete the supplemental environmental projects (SEPs).

Contact: James Entzminger (312-886-4062)

Settlement Reached, Leprino Foods Company, Remus, Michigan

On May 3, 2007, the U.S. EPA filed a joint Administrative Complaint and Consent Agreement and Final Order resolving alleged Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Section 103 and the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act Section 304 violations at Leprino Foods Company in Remus, Michigan. Leprino Foods failed to immediately notify the National Response Center and the State Emergency Response Commission of a 1,308 pound release of anhydrous ammonia that occurred on June 16, 2006. Anhydrous ammonia is a hazardous substance under CERCLA with a reportable quantity (RQ) of 100 pounds. This release was about 13 times the RQ. Leprino Foods Company will have 30 days to pay the \$29,250 penalty to resolve this matter.

Contact: James Entzminger (312-886-4062)

Settlement, AgroKey LLC, Rensselaer, Indiana

On May 9, 2007, U.S. EPA entered into a Consent Agreement and Final Order with AgroKey LLC to resolve alleged violations of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) release reporting requirements. The Complaint alleged that AgroKey LLC failed to immediately notify the National Response Center, Indiana State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) and Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) of a release of 4,220 pounds of anhydrous ammonia which occurred from their facility on May 9, 2005. Anhydrous ammonia is a CERCLA hazardous substance and an EPCRA extremely hazardous substance with a 100 pound reportable quantity. In addition, AgroKey LLC failed to submit written follow up reports to the SERC and LEPC as soon as practicable after the release. The release was the result of vandals trying to steal ammonia from a 1,000 gallon transport wagon to make illegal drugs. AgroKey LLC received a pre-filing letter which resulted in a settlement without filing the complaint. AgroKey LLC will pay a \$37,623 penalty to resolve this case. They have 30 days to make the payment.

Contact: Ruth McNamara (312-353-3193)

Inspection, Agrium U.S. Inc., Plant Marseilles, Illinois

On May 1, 2007, Edward Bordy from the Chemical Emergency

Preparedness and Prevention Section (CEPPS) conducted an inspection at the Agrium U.S. Inc., Plant in Marseilles, Illinois. The purpose of the inspection was to review the facility's Risk Management Program for the storage and use of anhydrous ammonia.

Contact: Edward Bordy (312-353-3191)

Inspection, Ulrich Chemical Inc., Terre Haute, Indiana

On May 8, 2007, Edward Bordy from the Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Section (CEPPS) conducted an inspection at the Ulrich Chemical Inc., Plant in Terre Haute, Indiana. The purpose of the inspection was to review the facility's Risk Management Program for the storage and use of chlorine.

Contact: Edward Bordy (312-353-3191)

TRAINING/CONFERENCES

9th Financial Analyst Workshop, Atlanta, Georgia

During the week of April 29 through May 3, 2007, members of the Remedial Enforcement Services Section attended the 9th Financial Analyst Workshop in Atlanta, Georgia. Several staff members from the Section and the Region made presentations at the workshop.

From the Remedial Enforcement Services Section, Fred Bartman, Margaret Herring and Thomas Marks attended the workshop. Margaret Herring presented an overview of sources available to obtain information and verify data related to financial analysis. Thomas Marks served as moderator for the workshop sessions. Deirdre Tanaka from the Office of Regional Counsel spoke on the distinction between a fact and expert witnesses and criteria for establishing credentials for an expert witness. William Tansey of the Water Division provided an overview of municipal finance and during a separate session guided attendees through a financial analysis for a municipality. Sally Jansen, Thomas Marks, Deirdre Tanaka, and William Tansey were among the 21 standing members of the planning committee for the workshop.

Approximately 70 people attended the workshop including staff from all the regions (except Region 6), U.S. EPA Headquarters,

and 10 States. About a third of the participants were from the States.

Contact: Tom Marks (312-353-6591)

**Minnesota Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Seminar,
New Brighton, Minnesota**

Ruth McNamara and Glenn Cekus, both of the Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Section, gave presentations at the Minnesota Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA) seminar conference in New Brighton, Minnesota. Approximately 75 participants representing private industry attended the event. The U.S. EPA presentations focused on release reporting under Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) Section 103(a) and EPCRA Section 304. Mr. Cekus also explained how to use the "List of Lists" and provided copies of pertinent materials. Ms. McNamara addressed the U.S. EPA enforcement protocol and reporting exemptions.

Contacts: Glenn Cekus (312-353-6449)
Ruth McNamara (312-353-3193).

**Federal Response Plan Coordinators Meeting, Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania**

On May 8-9, 2007, Barbi Lee and Alex Tzallas attended the Federal Response Plan (FRP) Coordinators Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss outstanding FRP issues, including substantial harm versus significant and substantial harm determinations, the development of the new database system, the new FRP training manual, the new national FRP checklists for inspections, unannounced drills and plan review, and Regional Unannounced Exercises (planning, execution, and evaluation). Attendees were from all 10 Regions.

Contact: Alex Tzallas (312-886-0622)

**SPCC Update, Indiana Petroleum & Environmental Contractors
Association Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, Indiana**

On April 24, 2007, Phillip Wicklein, Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Inspector-Grantee, gave a presentation

at the annual meeting of the Indiana Petroleum & Environmental Contractors Association in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Mr. Wicklein provided a summary of the recent revisions (December 2006) to the SPCC regulation (40 CFR Part 112) including the new streamlined requirements for Qualified Smaller Facilities and Oil-filled Electrical Equipment, exemptions and clarifications to the regulation, the compliance deadline extension, what to expect during an inspection, and recent inspection photos. There were between 50 and 60 people in attendance.

Contacts: Phil Wicklein (312-886-0185)
Barb Carr (312-886-7187)

Ardent Sentry Exercise, Indianapolis, Indiana

U. S. EPA Region 5, in partnership with other Federal agencies, participated in Ardent Sentry from May 10-13, 2007. Approximately 30 Region 5 employees from the Superfund, Air, and Water Divisions, and the Great Lakes National Program Office, along with Agency contractors, participated in this homeland security exercise in various roles and locations. The exercise tested military and civilian agency emergency response capabilities involving the fictitious detonation of a 10-kiloton nuclear device in an urban area (Indianapolis, Indiana). The Superfund Division provided air monitoring and technical support throughout the exercise. The military deployed more than 2,000 active-duty troops and almost 1,000 National Guard members to Camp Atterbury and the Muscatatuck Urban Training Area in Indiana. A joint U.S. EPA/Civil Support Team (CST) developed and approved a mission scenario in order to enhance play, particularly with regards to radiological response. This scenario was run three separate times from May 11, 2007, through May 12, 2007, with U.S. EPA and CST Illinois, CST Indiana, and CST Ohio involved. In addition, U.S. EPA was able to test current radiological equipment procedures in responding to a 10-kiloton nuclear detonation. A lessons learned report will be prepared by the Agency in the near future.

Contact: Jim Mitchell (312-353-9537)

Kick-Off, U.S. EPA National Sediment Forum, Chicago, Illinois

On April 12, 2007, the U.S. EPA National Sediment Forum (Forum) kicked-off with the first conference call. Bonnie Eleder, Region 5 and Kymberlee Keckler, Region 1 (Co-Chairs) had proposed the Forum for remedial project managers (RPMs) and others to share lessons learned, ask questions of each other, discuss sediment

issues and news, hear about recent national policy, and to provide a network for information exchange. The Forum is open to U.S. EPA employees with an interest in contaminated sediment issues and sites. Calls will be held every other month. Potential additional activities may include an annual meeting in conjunction with another meeting or conference; site visits; and special workgroups set up around a particular topic of interest.

Topics covered included: an overview of the history of the Forum, the Forum proposal, the draft 2007 Sediment Team Work Plan, and future topics of interest. Overall, there was support for the creation of a sediment forum. Specific recommendations arising from the call were: establishment of a list serve for the Forum; and, development of a database of lessons learned from sites, issues & technologies used, and contact names for sediment sites. The call ended with a brief discussion on logistics and date for the next call, which is scheduled for June 28, 2007.

Contact: Bonnie Eleder (312-886-4885)

Technology Transfer Presentation, AquaBlok - Thin Capping Technology for Contaminated Sediments, Chicago, Illinois

On May 8, 2007, Superfund hosted the "AquaBlok - Thin Capping Technology for Contaminated Sediment" technical transfer presentation in U.S. EPA Region 5 offices. John Hull and John Collins, AquaBlok Ltd., and John Valkenburg, Adventus America Inc., provided the presentation to Region 5 employees. AquaBlok is a patented composite aggregate technology, which can be used to cap contaminated sediments or, with incorporation a variety of minerals or materials, be utilized as an engineered "reactive" barrier to both isolate and ameliorate contaminated sediments. The Powerpoint presentation covered the origin of and background on the technology, various approaches for its use including case studies, SITE Program results for the Anacostia River, and the most recent active capping and in-situ treatment technologies and their application. They provided information-filled packets including a DVD with additional technical information and projects. About a dozen people attended this interesting presentation and following interactive discussion.

Contact: Bonnie Eleder (312-886-4885)

Region 5 States/U.S. EPA Sediment Forum Conference Calls, Chicago, Illinois

The Region 5 States/U.S. EPA Sediment Forum has held two calls in

2007, February 8 and April 12. Agenda items included an overview of the "4th International Conference on Remediation of Contaminated Sediments", updates on Great Lakes Legacy Act projects (Ashtabula River, Tannery Bay), updates on Superfund projects (including the Fox River), discussions on technical issues, such as treatment of sediment effluent to meet discharge standards, a potential new source of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in the Ashtabula River, and Brennan Marine's Vic-Vac dredge and its use on the Fox River. Both calls ended with the informative "Around the Region," whereby updates were provided on sediment sites of interest and other projects or issues. The next call is scheduled for June 21. The purpose of the Sediment Forum is to promote cross program and interagency coordination and communication in addressing contaminated sediment sites.

Contact: Bonnie Eleder (312-886-4885)

cc: Susan Bodine (OSWER)
 Scott Sherman (OSWER)
 Barry Breen (OSWER)
 Ed Chu (OSWER)
 David Lopez (OSRTI)
 Ernie Watkins (OSRTI)
 Susan Bromm (OECA)
 Catherine McCabe (OECA)
 Barnes Johnson (OSRTI)
 Dana Tulis (OEM)
 Elizabeth Southerland (OSRTI)
 Larry Zaragoza (OSRTI)
 Debbie Dietrich (OEM)
 Dana Tulis (OEM)
 Craig Beasley (OEM)
 Jim Woolford (OSRTI)
 Gail Cooper (FFRRO)
 Region 5 State Superfund Coordinators
 Division/Office Directors